

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In an apparatus for recording information to an optical recording medium, a laser beam is irradiated to and reflected from the medium. A photodetector detects the light quantity of the irradiated or reflected light beam,
5 and the detected laser beam is subjected to signal processing. Then, a sampler samples the laser beam at the timing of a sampling pulse which is supplied from a sampling pulse generator. Then, a controller controls the laser power according to the sampled laser beam. A pulse timing setting unit sets and
10 adjusts the timing of the sampling pulse by taking into account the response time in the propagation path of the laser beam from the start of the irradiation to the sampling. Thus, the laser power can be monitored correctly, and the laser power can be optimized so as to stably and reliably reproduce an address signal and to generate a servo signal while data is being recorded.